



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Justice Programs

*Community Capacity Development Office*

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*Washington, D.C. 20531*

**Call for Nominations**

**CCDO Announces the First  
MICHAEL K. CONNOR PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD**

**Overview:**

The Michael K. Connor Public Service Award is an honorary award established by the Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) to pay tribute to the memory and achievements of its colleague, Michael K. Connor, for his outstanding efforts in promoting law enforcement cooperation and coordination in the Operation Weed and Seed Program. Michael passed away in July 2005. He worked as a CCDO Program Manager since the inception of Operation Weed and Seed.

Every organization has its pacesetter for compassion and conscience, the person who inspires its members to work for what is just, fair and equitable. Such people do not come along often, but when we work with them, all of us are better for it—as they inspire us to help those who are less fortunate. Michael was truly one of those rare persons. He wanted to help people through his work and he worked diligently to fulfill his passion.

The award honors *law enforcement officers* who have provided exemplary leadership and outstanding service on behalf of Weed and Seed sites in their jurisdictions, and for their outstanding professional achievements and contributions through public and community service. The award represents national recognition of local law enforcement officers in Weed and Seed sites. The officers must have demonstrated exceptional service above and beyond the call of duty in Weed and Seed sites.

**Presentation of Awards:**

The first awards (up to three) will be presented at CCDO's Law Enforcement Conference, scheduled for August 14-17, 2006, in Phoenix, AZ. CCDO plans to bestow this award at every Law Enforcement Conference, which takes place every other year. Recipient(s) of the Michael K. Connor Public Service Award will receive:

- An all-expense paid trip (airfare/hotel) to the Law Enforcement conference
- A plaque
- National coverage in *In-Sites Magazine*

### **Eligibility:**

All local law enforcement officers participating in Operation Weed and Seed are eligible for nomination. Nomination of a *group* of such individuals may also be made\*. A nominee must have made outstanding contributions/accomplishments in the designated Weed and Seed community.

### **\*Group Nominations:**

Group nominations may be submitted; however, only *one* member of the group will be selected [TBD by the Steering Committee] to represent the “group” at the Law Enforcement conference. Although there will be *one* plaque recognizing the group, each member will receive a certificate of appreciation.

### **Who May Submit Nomination(s):**

All nominations must be submitted through [by] the local U.S. Attorney’s Office via e-mail to CCDO at [MKCPSAward@usdoj.gov](mailto:MKCPSAward@usdoj.gov). The following representatives are invited to make recommendations to their local USAO: Site Coordinators, Weed and Seed Steering Committees, U.S. Attorneys/LECCs, Police Officers, CCDO Program Managers and community residents.

### **Selection Criteria:**

Up to three (3) award recipients (or groups) will be honored at CCDO’s Law Enforcement Conference in Phoenix at this year’s conference. Selection will be based on consideration of the following:

1. Quality of nomination application
2. Significance of contributions in terms of overall impact of nominee’s service and accomplishments
3. Extent to which nominee’s services/accomplishments have positively impacted the community at large
4. Relationship of effort to elements of the strategy
5. Time and energy devoted to Weed and Seed sites and ways in which nominee helped sites to reach their full potential and/or improved the quality of life in the designated communities

### **Selection Process**

All nominations must be submitted *through* the local U.S. Attorney’s Office. The U.S. Attorney’s representative will forward all nominations to CCDO at [MKCPSAward@usdoj.gov](mailto:MKCPSAward@usdoj.gov). Each nomination will be reviewed separately and independently by at least three individuals (CCDO staff and consultants). CCDO will make the final determination, and the award recipients will be notified by the Award Coordinator.

**Nomination Deadline:**

**The deadline is June 20, 2006.**

USAO representatives must forward all nominations to CCDO at [MKCPSAward@usdoj.gov](mailto:MKCPSAward@usdoj.gov) no later than 5:00 p.m., EST.

**Nomination Submission Requirements:**

- A completed nomination form by June 20, 2006.
- Only one e-mail per nomination will be accepted.
- Justification/Narrative Statement of no more than 2 pages. *(Be clear and specific with concrete details of examples of outstanding service, community benefits, accomplishments, measurable outcomes, etc. Clearly identify the Weed and Seed program component(s) to which the contributions relate [e.g., Law Enforcement, Community Policing, Prevention/Intervention/Treatment, and/or Neighborhood Revitalization].)*
- *Optional:* News articles and other media materials relevant to the nomination may be attached as supporting documentation.

**For the nomination form and any additional information, please contact your program manager.**